

**In the Claims**

Please replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application with the following list of claims, with deletions shown by strikethrough or surrounded by double brackets and additions shown by underlining:

**Listing of the Claims**

1-115 (cancelled).

116. (New) A method of handling information indicative of customer preferences for data, comprising the steps of:

- creating at least one customer profile for each eligible recipient of data from a plurality of data sources, said customer profile indicating the customer's preferences for data having predetermined characteristics;

- creating content profiles for each data source of said data, said content profiles indicating the degree of content of said predetermined characteristics in data from each data source;

- monitoring which data sources are actually accessed by each recipient; and

- updating, without input from each customer, each customer profile in accordance with the content profiles of the data sources actually accessed by that customer to automatically update each customer's actual preferences for said predetermined characteristics.

117. (New) A method comprising:

- creating at least one customer profile for each eligible recipient of data from a plurality of data sources, said customer profile indicating the customer's preferences for data having predetermined characteristics;

- creating content profiles for each data source of said data, said content profiles indicating the degree of content of said predetermined characteristics in data from each data source;

- monitoring which data sources are actually accessed by each recipient; and

- updating, without input from each customer, each customer profile in accordance with the content profiles of the data sources actually accessed by that customer to automatically update each customer's actual preferences for said predetermined characteristics.

118. (New) A method of handling information indicative of user preferences for data, the method comprising:

- for each of a plurality of users, creating at least one user profile indicating preferences of the user for particular characteristics of data;

- for each of a plurality of data items from one or more data sources, creating a content profile indicating a degree to which content of the data item has said particular characteristics;

- monitoring which data items are accessed by each user; and

- for each user who accessed at least one data item, automatically updating the user profile of the user based, at least in part, on the content profiles of each data item accessed by the user, the automatic updating including updating the preferences of the user for particular characteristics of data.

119. (New) A method of handling information indicative of customer preferences for data from a plurality of data sources, comprising the steps of:

- creating a customer profile for each customer of said plurality of data sources, said customer profile indicating said customer's preferences for predetermined characteristics of the data sources;

- monitoring which data sources are actually accessed by each customer; and

- updating each customer profile to reflect the frequency of selection of the data sources by customers with customer profiles substantially similar to said each customer profile.

120. (New) A method comprising:

- creating a customer profile for each customer of said plurality of data sources, said customer profile indicating said customer's preferences for predetermined characteristics of the data sources;

- monitoring which data sources are actually accessed by each customer; and

- updating each customer profile to reflect the frequency of selection of the data sources by customers with customer profiles substantially similar to said each customer profile.

121. (New) A method of handling user information indicative of user preferences for data, comprising:

for each of a plurality of users, creating at least one user profile indicating preferences of the user for particular characteristics of data;

monitoring which of a plurality of data items from one or more data sources are accessed by each user; and

for at least one of the users, updating the at least one user profile based at least in part on a frequency of access of the accessed data items by users with user profiles substantially similar to the at least one user profile of the at least one user.

122. (New) A method of providing customer access to data from a plurality of data sources, comprising the steps of:

creating at least one customer profile for each eligible recipient of said data, said customer profile including a profile of data previously accessed by said customer;

creating content profiles for each data source of said data, said content profiles reflecting the customer profiles of those customers who have previously accessed said data from each data source;

relating said at least one customer profile with the content profiles for the data available from each data source to the customer;

determining a subset of data having content profiles which are determined in said relating step to most closely match said at least one customer profile; and

presenting said subset of data to said customer for selection.

123. (New) A method comprising

creating at least one customer profile for each eligible recipient of data from a plurality of data sources, said customer profile including a profile of data previously accessed by said customer;

creating content profiles for each data source of said data, said content profiles reflecting the customer profiles of those customers who have previously accessed said data from each data source;

relating said at least one customer profile with the content profiles for the data available from each data source to the customer;

determining a subset of data having content profiles which are determined in said relating step to most closely match said at least one customer profile; and

presenting said subset of data to said customer for selection.

124. (New) A method of providing access to data, comprising:

for each of a plurality of users, creating at least one user profile including a profile of data previously accessed by the user;

for each of a plurality of data items from one or more data sources, creating a content profile reflecting the user profiles of those users who have previously accessed said data item;

for at least a first of the plurality of users, determining a subset of the plurality of data items that have content profiles that most closely correlate to said at least one user profile of the user; and

providing the at least first user access to said subset of data items.